

Fort Macon State Park Summary

Fort Macon State Park is located in the East District in Carteret County.

Fort Macon State Park Visitors

In 2004, there were 1,297,106 visitors to Fort Macon State Park. Of those, 12 percent (150,244) were from Carteret County (locals); 24 percent (305,496) were primary purpose, non-local visitors (visitors residing outside of the park counties in the area for the primary purpose of visiting the park); and 64 percent (841,366) were casual use, non-local visitors (visitors residing outside of Carteret County that are in the area for reasons other than visiting the park) (Figure 15).

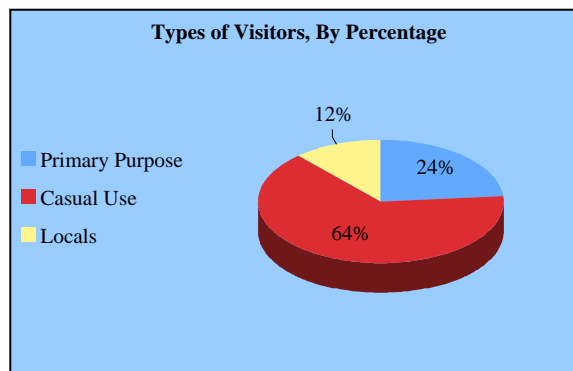


Figure 15. Fort Macon - Types of Visitors

Visitors typically enjoy fishing, picnicking, beach activities and visiting the historic Civil War Fort (Figure 16).

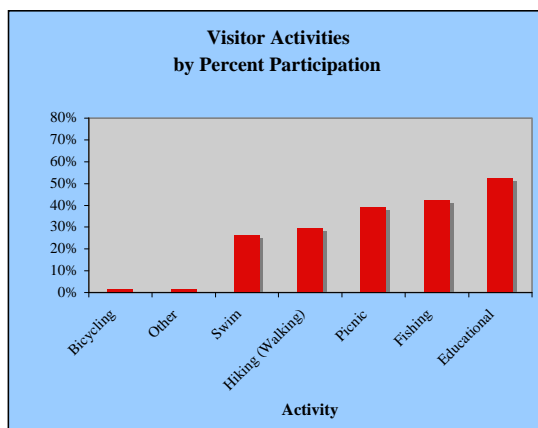


Figure 16. Fort Macon - Visitor Activities

Visitor Expenditures

Those individuals who reside outside of Carteret County and visit the park create economic impact by infusing the economy with outside dollars. Primary purpose, non-local visitors spent an estimated \$12,105,587 while visiting the region. A bulk of that amount was spent on lodging, auto expenses, and retail shopping (Figure 17).

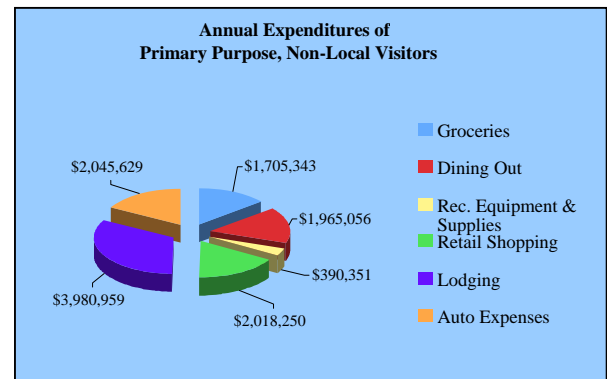


Figure 17. Fort Macon - Annual Expenditures of Primary Purpose, Non-Local Visitors

Economic Impact

Non-local park visitors that are primarily in the area to visit Fort Macon are especially important to the local economy. They bring and spend dollars from outside Carteret County that would not otherwise enter and impact the local economy. The direct expenditures made by these visitors, as well as the subsequent indirect and induced expenditures that follow as a result of their spending, have been measured to determine their impact on local sales, personal income, and employment.

Economic Impact of Fort Macon State Park

Impact on Sales

The impact on sales from the direct expenditures of primary purpose, non-local visitors totaled an estimated \$15,703,630. Most of this impact occurred in the form of spending for lodging, dining out, auto expenses, and retail shopping (Figure 16).

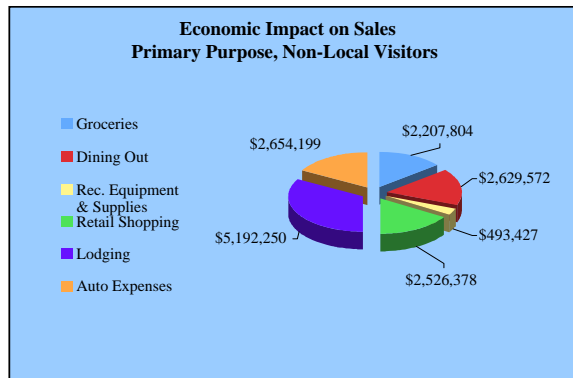


Figure 18. Fort Macon - Economic Impact on Sales, Primary Purpose, Non-Local Visitors

Impact on Personal Income

The impact on personal income from the direct expenditures of primary purpose, non-local visitors totaled an estimated \$6,188,288 (Figure 19). This is a measure of the economic benefit that local residents derive from expenditures made by non-local park visitors.

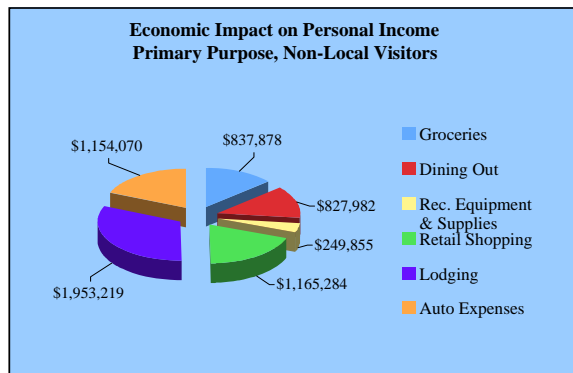


Figure 19. Fort Macon - Economic Impact on Personal Income, Primary Purpose, Non-Local Visitors

Impact on Employment

The impact on employment from the direct expenditures of primary purpose, non-local visitors totaled an estimated 312.3 full-time equivalent jobs in Carteret County (Figure 20).

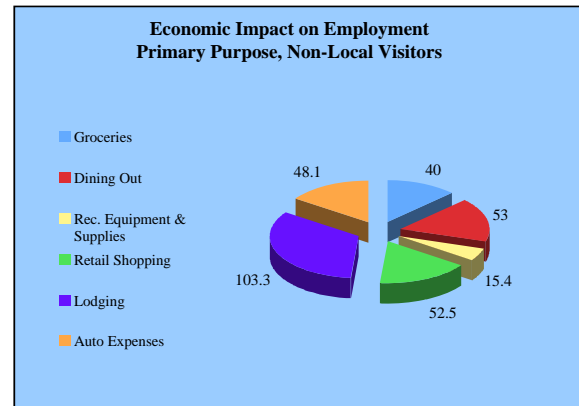


Figure 20. Fort Macon - Economic Impact on Employment, Primary Purpose, Non-Local Visitors

Overall Impacts

The economic impact of the park's operating budget also has a role to play in the overall economic impact of the park. During the period of data collection, the park's operating budget was \$522,450. Table 7 provides a summary of the overall economic impact of the park on sales, personal income, and employment.

Table 7. Fort Macon - Economic Impacts of Operating Budget and Overall Economic Impact

Impact Category	State Operating Budget	Overall Impacts
Sales	\$710,540	\$16,414,170
Personal Income	\$488,044	\$6,676,332
Employment	14.1	326.4

How the State's Investment Benefits Carteret County

The state's operating budget for Fort Macon State Park signifies an investment. Part of the return on this investment is the economic impact created when visitors choose Fort Macon for their recreation. A measure of that return is in the "leverage ratio," or the number of dollars generated for local residents for every dollar invested by the state in net operating costs. For Fort Macon State Park, that ratio is 1:13.8. Therefore, local residents receive a benefit of \$13.80 for every dollar the state invests.